

## DEFENSE PLANS ARE DEFENDED

Head of Navy League Says Pacifists Are Inconsistent. Pleads for Preparedness.

"Why do the pacifists put locks upon their own doors and fasten their own windows even in the midst of a city that is guarded by police and by watchmen, and then protest against locking the national doors and guarding the national windows?"

The speaker was Col. Robert M. Thompson, president of the Navy League. He had just been presented with a vast array of arguments offered by leading pacifists of the country and had been asked by a representative of The Herald to set forth whatever refutation he deemed necessary.

### Mexico Furnishes Facts.

"But what are the facts? Within sixty days, Mexico, torn by the ravages of civil war, armed only by our consent, has thrice sent armed bands across our border, attacked our soldiers, killed our citizens, destroyed our property, and the expedition sent to punish the marauders is coming home, its mission unfulfilled; yet every available soldier in the country has been sent to the Mexican border, and the militia of three States have been called to their assistance, and by the way, as has happened before, the militia have not made haste to respond."

"Today we have disputes, and serious disputes, with all the great nations of the world; diplomatic relations with Germany are severely strained. Japan and China have both protested against legislation that has passed the House and is now pending in the Senate."

### Treaties "Scraps of Paper."

"Two years ago the world was at peace. Treaties of arbitration were being made or being discussed with nearly all the nations. Today the world is at war. Treaties are 'scraps of paper,' and yet in all these two years burdened with sorrow, with destruction, and horror of war, Congress has done nothing. Today, when we are calling on the militia of individual States to defend their borders from invasion, the Senate and the House have been haggling as to whether the army shall be 150,000 or 160,000, and the House, under the lead of James Hay, of Virginia, has won for the smaller army. Once Virginia was the 'Mother of Presidents,' and now of James Hay."

"It is difficult to understand that state of mind which consents to our maintaining at a great expense an inadequate army and navy, but which opposes an adequate army and an army at a comparatively trifling greater expense."

"Why do the pacifists put locks upon their own doors and fasten their own windows even in the midst of a city that is guarded by police and by watchmen, and then protest against

locking the national doors and guarding the national windows when they know that the thief that will come through the national doors and windows will not be content to carry off teapots and silver, but will take from us all that we have, including, that most precious heritage, 'Government of the People, by the People, for the People.'"

### Defense Not Expensive.

"Opponents of preparedness urge the cost as a reason against maintaining an adequate army and navy, and the error of Congress is in forgetting that we are a democratic country, that it is the duty of each and every citizen to assist in providing for the common defense. When it provides a professional army it provides the kind of army of which all English-speaking nations have been jealous. The expense of such an army is enormous because we have to buy the men in competition with the labor market, and we can hold it together only in competition with the labor market, and we can make it effective only by keeping the men with the colors until they become professional soldiers, machines to obey any order that their officers may give them."

"In time of war we call out volunteers by the bribe of pensions and when we measure the cost we find that for every dollar we are paying for the protection of the country we are paying 75 cents for the wars that ended years ago. We pride ourselves upon being practical people, an able, an ingenious people. The fact is we are a stupid people. A little nation like Switzerland maintains an army so formidable as to command the respect of the gigantic nations that surround her."

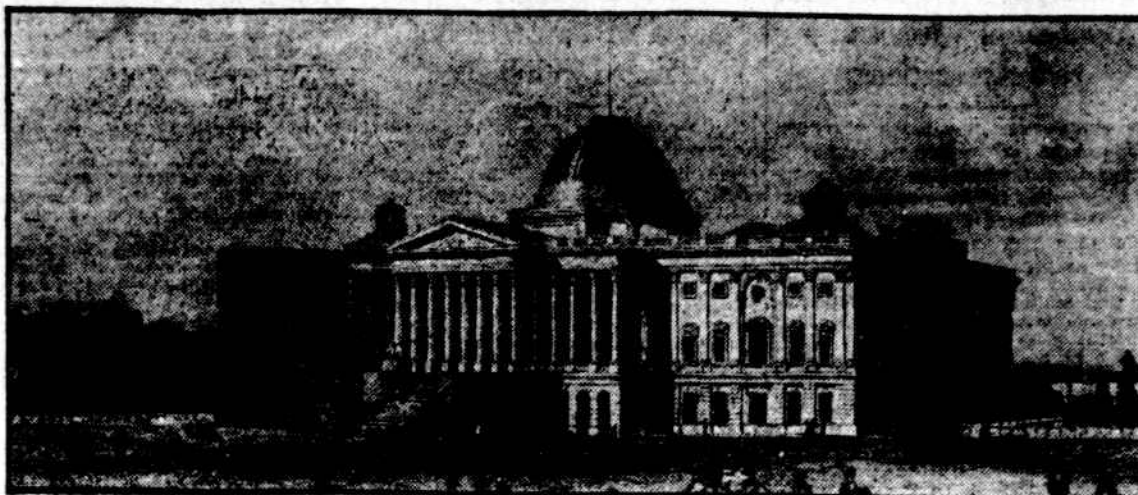
## BIG NAVY IS URGED BY REPRESENTATIVE HOBSON

Representative Richmond P. Hobson, "hero of the Merrimac" and a foremost disciple of armed preparedness, declares a status of defense for this Nation, as a permanent policy, we cannot safely permit any great military nation of Europe that has a great standing army and has a vast merchant marine supplying transportation, and therefore always ready to have what is known as the control of the sea between its shores and ours. We could not strike them back if we had control of the sea, because we would have no army, and the fleet alone cannot go ashore, but if they have control of the sea they can strike us almost instantly without any chances of resistance on our part.

"The same principle applies to the Pacific Ocean. We cannot safely permit a nation in Asia that is a great military nation, with a vast standing army available and a merchant marine ready for transportation, to be in control of the sea in that ocean. Now, then, these oceans are so far apart that we cannot permit this condition to exist in either ocean. Therefore a single fleet navy will not answer. We must maintain as a living proposition a fleet in the Pacific Ocean superior to the navy of Japan and a fleet in the Atlantic Ocean superior to the navy of Germany, both at the same time."

At the request of Thomas McKinnon Wood, secretary for Scotland, Prof. Ludwig Becker, a German, has resigned the chair of astronomy in the University of Glasgow, which carried with it the position of chief of one of the most important observatory stations in Scotland. Prof. Becker left Glasgow.

## Burning of Capitol By British Troops During War of 1812 Washington's Most Painful Lesson In Value of Preparedness



—Photo by courtesy of Heilmüller Art Company.

United States Capitol as rebuilt after the fire of 1814. Washington was unprepared, and the British marched through the city, burning public buildings as they went. The partial destruction of the Capitol, White House, and State, War, and Navy Building cost the government exactly \$1,215,111.10. The damage done to private property by the one-day invasion of the British amounted to \$969,171.04. The damage that might be done by an invading army today would amount to many millions.

Thousands of Washingtonians will march up Pennsylvania avenue today in a silent appeal for preparedness.

A century ago British troops, with guns and lighted torches, marched up the same avenue, leaving the Capitol and Library of Congress in ashes behind them. Washington was not prepared.

As far back as 1814 there were pacifists in America, and although the country had been at war with England for nearly two years, they saw no need for building defenses around the National Capital.

Like the "dove-brand" peace advocates of today, they said, "Oh, we can raise a million men between sunrise and sunset if occasion demands."

Suddenly, in the summer of 1814, the news was flashed to Washington that British forces, released from service in France, were sailing up the Potomac and Patuxent rivers. The Cabinet met, and its members decided the Capital was in danger. They created a new military district embracing the territory in and around Washington, and placed Brig. Gen. William H. Winder in command.

### Task Was Begun.

Then the theory of the pacifists of raising an army over night with the enemy only a few miles from the city, was begun. There were exactly 1,000 trained regular troops in the military district around Washington. Acting under orders from the War Department, Gen. Winder began raising an army of 15,000 militia from Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, overnight.

The citizens responded like true Americans, but their country was not prepared. After several weeks of marching to and fro along the roads leading to the National Capital—the marches being caused by reports of the enemy's ap-

proach—this "overnight" army finally entrenched itself at Bladensburg, six miles northeast of the city.

Bravely these citizen-soldiers met the first attack of the seasoned British troops and sent them back across the Bladensburg Bridge. But the British advanced again with re-enforcements, and this time the first line of American troops was shattered.

A few miles farther on the British troops, spurred on by their victory, encountered Gen. Winder's second line, whom, we are told, the British outnumbered two to one. If a pacifist had ventured near that second skirmish in Bladensburg road he would have seen, according to reports, the bulk of his overnight army barefooted and half-equipped.

### Ordered to Retreat.

After the defeat of his second line, Gen. Winder ordered his scattered forces to retreat into the city and take their stand near the Capitol. At the approach of the enemy, however, Gen. Winder ordered his men to fall back to Georgetown and nothing but the grass and trees remained between the British and the heart of the nation.

Today—June 14, 1916—patriotism pulses through the veins of every Washingtonian. Stores are closed, the wheels of government are at a standstill, and the holiday spirit prevails. Thousands are mobilized on side streets in the vicinity of the Capitol, ready to march up Pennsylvania avenue as a sign to Congress that they believe their country should be protected.

On that day—August 24, 1814—patriotism also pulsed through the veins of the Washingtonians, but it was stifled with rage, for we are told by historians that

the unprepared, half-equipped militiamen wept and cursed as they retreated up Pennsylvania avenue to Georgetown. They were unprepared.

Today thousands will stand along the sidewalks of Pennsylvania avenue and cheer as thousands of their fellow-citizens, led by President Wilson, march by to preparedness.

### Women Huddled in Doorways.

On that other day, women and children were huddled in doorways along the same avenue breathless with fear, watching British troops straggle by. The husbands, brothers, fathers and sweethearts of these frightened women and children were marooned at the west end of the city, ready to retreat—because the city was unprepared.

Every man, woman and child who marches up Pennsylvania avenue today will do so in order that Congress may take heed and not let an enemy burn the roof of their head again.

The position in which unpreparedness left Washington in 1814 is clearly shown by the following extract from a letter written by Brig. Gen. William H. Winder, commanding the defenses around Washington, to the Secretary of War on August 13, 1814:

"Wouldn't it be expedient, under the direction of the Navy Department, to have vessels ready to be sunk in the Potomac at Fort Washington or other proper point, at a moment's warning, to obstruct navigation?"

"Wouldn't it be expedient, in our present destitute condition for military force, to put the Marine Corps into service, or at all events to cause them to be ready to re-enforce Fort Washington at a moment's notice, or to be applied, at circumstances require, to any point of defense?"

## LOCAL DEFENSE PLANS YEAR OLD

Parade Today Will Climax Twelve Months of Devotion to Preparedness.

The preparedness parade today will mark the climax of a year devoted to preparedness in the National Capital.

For twelve months thousands of citizens of Washington have been quietly engaged in learning the rudiments of military training. They worked without brass bands or idle talk, and until some one suggested a preparedness parade, the city as a whole, was unaware of the vein of patriotism that pulsed unknown through the city.

A surprise is in store for the thousands who flank Pennsylvania avenue this morning, waiting patiently for the endless line of marchers to pass. Clustered in among the hundreds of citizens who will march merely as patriotic individuals, the spectators will see 5,000 rifle club members, 2,000 High School Cadets, several hundred young soldier girls of the National Service School, and similar bodies of men and women whose appearance attests preparedness in its truest sense.

A year ago the orators in Congress began concentrating their voices on preparedness and Americanism, filling page after page of the Congressional record with patriotic talks.

### Rifle Clubs Formed.

One of the first and most practical steps toward preparedness taken during the year was the organization of forty-three rifle clubs, which now boast a total membership of 10,000 trained riflemen. Washington is largely responsible to Maj. Fred A. Phillips, of the National Rifle Association, for this work.

The bulk of these clubs are in the government departments. The two biggest clubs outside the government are the District Building Club and the Police Department Club.

Brig. Gen. William E. Harvey, commander of the District National Guard, went one better than Maj. Phillips, however, when in the latter part of February he dug from the dusty archives of Congress, a law which said that it was the duty of the District Commissioners to provide the command of the militia with a record of all citizens in the District between 18 and 45 years who would be eligible for military service in time of war.

The Commissioners acknowledged Gen. Harvey's contention was correct and immediately asked Congress for \$5,000 to take a military census of the city. With such a census the commander of the militia could muster in within a few days every available man in the city to meet an emergency.

### Cadet Corps Increased.

The third step was the action of the Board of Education in inviting Lieut. E. Z. Steever, of the War Department, to reorganize the High School Cadets on a strictly military basis. This was started in January and resulted in a rapid growth of the number of cadets from 700 to 1,500, forming two regiments instead of one, as heretofore.

Formerly, Washington had 700 high school boys in uniform who knew how to march and shoulder arms. Now the city has 1,500 cadets, trained riflemen and

headed by officers who have passed through a rigid course in war strategy. The number of trained school boys was boosted from 1,500 to 2,000 a month later when Gonzaga and St. John's Colleges, private institutions, organized cadet corps.

### Former Cadets Organized.

There are already more than 100 members in the ex-High School Cadet Regiment, including Maj. Raymond Pullman, superintendent of police, and a number of prominent business men.

The Board of Education, elated at the success of the reorganization of the cadets, asked Congress, through the Commissioners, for \$3,000 to send the cadets to a military camp during the summer. The appropriation has been approved by the House and now awaits the action of the Senate. This will not be available until the summer of 1917, however.

While the military camp for girls, held recently at the National Service School at Chevy Chase, was not confined to Washingtonians, it turned out several hundred Washington soldier-girls with a basic knowledge of what they should do for their country in time of war. These girls will march in their khaki skirts in the parade today, headed by Mrs. Hugh L. Scott, wife of the Chief of Staff of the army.

Last but not least is the Washington-Plattsburg Rifle Association, composed of business and professional men of the city, and organized a few months ago by those who attended the business men's training camp at Plattsburg, N. Y., last summer. The association has 100 members, with Basil Miles at their head.

Although the preparedness wave has swept the country from San Francisco to New York, reviving the spirit of '76 in every American, it is doubtful if any city of the size of Washington can boast of a better record for the year than the National Capital.

### VOTERS SHOULD SERVE.

President Hadley, of Yale, thinks

Military Service Necessary. Arthur T. Hadley, president of Yale University, is of the opinion that military service on the part of the voters is necessary if the country is to be safe. He said:

"I believe that America, like every other democracy, needs to exact an obligation of military service or its equivalent from all voters. If the government is to be safe, but with regard to the armed preparedness needed under existing conditions, I had rather not attempt to give answers."

### WANTS MORE CADETS.

Governor Fielder, of New Jersey, is a disciple of the plan to augment the output of the army and naval academies and to form the State militia into a reserve army. He says:

"An increase in the regular army and navy, facilities for West Point and Annapolis training of a greater number of young men each year; building up the State militia as a reserve army, through increased Federal appropriations, a small amount of pay for the officers and men, stricter Federal supervision and requiring the militiamen to enlist in the Federal, as well as State service, should begin."

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